

## **THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**July 24, 2018**

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, July 24, 2018, 448 Court Place, Government Center, Beulah, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Gary Sauer.

Present were: Commissioners Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke

The invocation was given by Commissioner Griner and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **Agenda:**

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Griner, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

### **Minutes:**

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Roelofs, to approve the special joint session minutes of July 9, 2018 as corrected on page 3. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Motion by Roelofs, seconded by Griner, to approve the regular session minutes of July 10, 2018 as presented. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

9:03 a.m. Public Input – None

### **ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS**

Doug Durand, Benzie Senior Resources, provided a written report and stated that they have received an award of \$5,000 from the Grand Traverse Band and will use it toward the purchase of a Home Delivered Meal vehicle. A new event to the Gathering Place is taste testing with some healthy foods which was held on July 13 with 23 people participating. Senior Needs Assessment – they have collected 180 and have another 185 to turn in. Walk A Thon will be held on August 4. Area Agency on Aging benefits the Benzie Senior Resource – in 2017 \$200,000 was filtered through Benzie County in services. They have helped support 22 clients.

Comm Jeannot asked how many of the Senior Needs Assessment surveys need to be returned for it to be meaningful? 500 but 800-1,000 would be wonderful.

Chairman Sauer said thank you for a good job, appreciate all that you do.

Sheriff Schendel reported on the jail crisis – they hired a new employee yesterday and he has received word that another senior corrections officer will retire. There are good candidates out there but there is a learning curve and takes a while to get them where they need to be; they will still use part-time and over-time and will continue with road deputies to fill in the gaps.

Comm Jeannot asked how long it takes to identify a good applicant and when they are going to be successful? Sheriff responded about a year.

Frank Post, Emergency Management, provided the June 2018 activity report; July 4 went very well in Frankfort and Elberta; they are doing an after-action review; EMP Work Agreement for 2019.

Comm Jeannot inquired regarding the airport accident and asked for an update on the accident; while the FAA was reviewing regarding the accident, another airplane wanted to take off and was told they

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couldn't at that time – ~~the~~ they took off anyhow. The FAA is dealing with that individual. A table top exercise is being planned for winter.

Comm Jeannot acknowledges the Airport Authority and Frank Post for doing a great job with the accident and the follow-up.

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Money, to authorize the Chair of the Board of Commissioners and the Emergency Management Coordinator to sign on behalf of Benzie County, the 2019 Work Agreement with the Michigan State Police – Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

## **COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

Comm Money reported that the after-action review in June at the Airport was handled very professionally; he participated in the Parks and Recreation interview and one person has been chosen.

Comm Warsecke stated that he, as well, attended the Parks and Recreation interview.

Comm Griner talked about the containers at Walton Junction to put on a train and that he would like Comm Jeannot to join him in this; Graceland says it is getting harder and harder to get truck drivers to haul containers. He will give it a great push in the next six months while he is still a commissioner.

Comm Jeannot reported on the July 19 Building Authority (BA) meeting and discussions regarding retainage of \$197,000 which has not been paid yet; financial matters with the BA – there is an outstanding legal bill from the prior attorney and there is a question about whether it belongs to the BA or to the prior members, about \$65,000; the BA is reviewing that bill in detail; they are in the process of interviewing for new general counsel; they are also looking to pay the cost to cover Comstock Construction with liability insurance. There was a discussion regarding a FOIA coordinator – the chair has taken it upon himself to be the FOIA coordinator and has been encouraged to work with the County's FOIA coordinator. Met with the NMCAA new executive director – they manage 7 – 10 counties. He will not be available for the BA August 16 meeting and there is no alternate, so he would like someone to attend in his place – Comm Griner will attend. Continues to work on a community-wide housing project, Crystal Lake Township did approve to enter into negotiations with the City of Frankfort, that project does continue to move forward with about 125 total units being planned.

Comm Roelofs reported on Mr. Henderson's professionalism and desire to help Benzie County grow and the turning over the EMS Department to someone new, he has prepared a day-to-day manual to turnover to the new director. He attended the Village of Lake Ann meeting a couple weeks ago – it lasted 26 minutes. August 2 is the ground breaking for the new Community Outreach Building for Veterans in Traverse City. 22 to None last year had a mud run for suicide awareness – DK5K this year it is August 18 at the Off-Road Park in Copemish.

Comm Carland reported that on July 4 he participated in the Lions Chicken BBQ and they sold 550-600 half chickens. Centra Wellness – things are pretty quiet at the state Capitol regarding mental health. Attended the Village of Beulah meeting and they stated they had a good 4<sup>th</sup> of July but felt

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the numbers were down; the water tank project is underway. Benzonia Township has seen the zoning permits go up. Airport had a busy 4<sup>th</sup> of July week – it was very busy out there.

Comm Jeannot asked if the Village of Beulah discussed the water rates? Yes, everyone is discussing them. The rates at the Village are based on the rates from the USDA who they received the loan from for the new tower.

10:00 a.m. Bob Schlueter, Area Agency on Aging Annual Report

Mr. Schlueter says thank you to Bob Roelofs who sits on their board; he also gave a big thank you to Doug Durand – he is an outstanding director for the Benzie Senior Resources (BSR). \$233,000 has gone directly to BSR with \$988,000 to Benzie County in services. Benzie County's contribution request remains at \$3,600 and has not increased in several years. They are working to address how to get people involved in services in order to keep people in their homes. He also spoke regarding the Needs Assessment survey.

10:20 a.m. Matt Olson, Superintendent Benzie Central Schools (BCCS) & Jeff Tousley, Superintendent Frankfort Elberta Schools (FEAS)

Mr. Olson stated that they are here to answer questions you may have regarding School Resource Officer (SRO). The committee work has been really good and positive; there has been reasoning and rationale as to why we need a SRO.

Mr. Tousley says thank you for having us here today. Our vision is to have SRO – 3-pronged approach: 1) Law Enforcement; 2) Counsellor/teacher to develop a rapport and develop relationships with the kids and 3) Social/Emotional connection and communication with the kids.

Currently doing in the schools: BCCS – we are training staff and positive training support; trauma/crisis prevention. They are increasing security thru infrastructure means. They have put \$200,000 into a project for a security system – which is boots in the doors for lock down system and an alert system.

FEAS: Mr. Tousley stated that they are very similar – lock down drills, boots in the doors and a lock-down system as well. We want to make sure that the kids are safe.

Comm Griner asks what a typical day for the SRO would be.

Comm Warsecke stated that he served as an SRO in Traverse City and served under 3 principals and they would meet; the important thing is spending time with the kids, in the cafeteria, walking around, sporting events. Focus your day on the kids.

Comm Jeannot stated that he gets the need to protect our students. How do you explain to an elementary parent that the SRO is at the High School and not the elementary schools? Mr. Olson stated that the goal is to have that SRO at the elementary schools, but not daily.

Comm Jeannot commented regarding funding – this is the 13<sup>th</sup> millage we have in the county, what about funding the capital expenses with your sinking fund – can you explain the other options of funding? Sinking fund dollars cannot be used for personnel. Both schools stated that their operating funds do not have room for an additional person without this plan. The equipment has to be 100% to the schools.

Comm Jeannot stated that you said about 1/3 of the year they will be used for other activities. This officer would be the youth resource officer, during summer and breaks, our kids are at home or out in the community, some kids have issues when out in the community, the SRO already has a relationship with the kids, they would be their primary charge.

Comm Roelofs inquired about the statement that the SRO was to be part time so you couldn't use sinking fund dollars, now you say year long. Mr. Olson stated they are highly limited with the use of sinking fund dollars. This SRO will be a county employee.

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Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Roelofs, to adopt resolution 2018-022 Resolution Authorizing Millage Election for Benzie County School Resource Officers Program Operating Millage Proposal and Certifying Ballot Language as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: Jeannot Motion carried.

Comm Jeannot stated his challenge with this is the budgeting process, not the securing of the schools.

10:47 a.m. Recess

10:54 a.m. Reconvene

### **COMMISSIONER REPORTS continued**

Chairman Sauer reported on the Road Commission is dealing with a group of Lobb Road to M-22 with speeders – they will not put in speed bumps. Attended the Village of Elberta meeting thanks Frank Post – it was the best 4<sup>th</sup> of July they’ve had in a long time; Benzie Bus worked well shuttling people. Betsie Valley Trail – beavers are no longer an issue. Weldon Township asked him to come over and discussed the forestry work going on – they still receive the same amount of funds to help for damage done to secondary and seasonal road and there has been some increase in logging, they asked him to find out what authority the DNR has regarding damage to the roads from logging.

Michelle Thompson, County Treasurer, stated the DNR does pay taxes -- PILT

### **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

Administrator’s update. Budget update – continue to work at presenting you a balanced budget and we are down to about \$10,000. Lise Hoppe from 44North will be here this afternoon to talk about health insurance and the different options available. The request from the Register of Deeds for \$1.00 per hour more per employee for handling passports, would be about \$6,240 if you were to do so; one employee is TPOAM member and will have to be handled through collective bargaining. The request is still out there for the Register and Chief Deputy. Will start the Opioid litigation research tomorrow. Attend a Michigan Municipal Executive Conference in Charlevoix and reported on three main topics – 1) Medical Marijuana Licensing; 2) Mediation and 3) Secession planning. The Finance Manager is doing well, she found a fund not having been used since 2005.

### **FINANCE**

Bills: Motion by Carland, seconded by Money, to approve payment of the bills from July 10, 2018 to July 23, 2018 in the amount of \$293,765.61, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Michelle Thompson, County Treasurer, reported on a press conference she attended in Lansing regarding the Land Bank Impact Study; she hosted an investment luncheon for the schools, villages, township and the city so they could learn about investing and statutory guidelines, however it was not well attended, but she scheduled this at the request of the speaker, so the date was limited.

### **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Comm Jeannot removes #1.

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Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Griner, to approve items 2-5 of the July 10, 2018 Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar as presented. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

#1: Will discuss the idea for the administration fee this afternoon at Committee of the Whole.

## **COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

Parks & Recreation: Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Roelofs, to appoint Susan Zenker to the Parks and Recreation Commission with a term to expire on December 31, 2018, as presented. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

## **ACTION ITEMS:**

Financial Review Agreement: Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Roelofs, to approve the Professional Services Agreement with Municipal Analytics as amended to include smoothing with MERS to forecast a few years out based on prior years to better understand our budget, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Abs: Griner Motion carried.

## **PRESENTATION OF CORRESPONDENCE**

- St. Joseph Township, Berrien County, resolution opposing SB 1031 Utility Personal Property Tax Exemption.
- Road Commission minutes of June 28, 2018 received.
- Benzie Transportation Authority Financial Statement of Activities for June 2018 received.
- Leelanau County resolution opposing SB 1031 to amend the General Property Tax Act.
- Veterans Affairs minutes of June 11, 2018 received.
- 911 Service District annual accounting by Maner Costerisan received.
- MSU Extension memo regarding Citizen Planner received.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – None

**NEW BUSINESS** – None

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Warsecke, pursuant to Section 8(d) of the Open Meetings Act [MCL 15.268(d)] the Benzie County Board of Commissioner is requested to go into a closed session to consider the purchase of real property. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

12:09 p.m. Re-enter Open Session

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Money, to accept the recommendation of the board as discussed in closed session; Add an addendum to the motion stating: to authorize the county administrator to proceed in accordance with his proposal made in the closed session. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

12:10 p.m. Public Input

Michelle Thompson stated she didn't know that we had an ala carte menu for employee wages, you are going down a slippery slope. We've done this with the Prosecutor's Office, Clerk's Office and



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now you will talk about it with the Register of Deeds. If you do it with the Deeds, you might as well tack on the County Treasurer, but I'll be here too.

12:11 p.m. Public Input Closed

Motion by Roelofs, seconded by Carland, to adjourn at 12:11 p.m. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

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Gary G. Sauer, Chair

Dawn Olney, Benzie County Clerk

### INDEX

1. Approved the special joint session minutes of July 9, 2018 as corrected on page 3.
2. Approved the regular session minutes of July 10, 2018 as presented.
3. To authorize the Chair of the Board of Commissioners and the Emergency Management Coordinator to sign on behalf of Benzie County, the 2019 Work Agreement with the Michigan State Police – Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division.
4. Adopted resolution 2018-022 Resolution Authorizing Millage Election for Benzie County School Resource Officers Program Operating Millage Proposal and Certifying Ballot Language as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign.
5. Approved payment of the bills from July 10, 2018 to July 23, 2018 in the amount of \$293,765.61, as presented.
6. Approved items 2-5 of the July 10, 2018 Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar as presented.
7. Appointed Susan Zenker to the Parks and Recreation Commission with a term to expire on December 31, 2018, as presented.
8. Approved the Professional Services Agreement with Municipal Analytics as amended to include smoothing with MERS to forecast a few years out based on prior years to better understand our budget, authorizing the chairman to sign.
9. Entered closed session to consider the purchase of real property.
10. Accepted the recommendation of the board as discussed in closed session. Clarify by adding an addendum to the motion stating: to authorize the county administrator to proceed in accordance with his proposal made in the closed session.

**Committee of the Whole**

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Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Griner, to approve the Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar as follows:

1. Removed from Consent Calendar.
2. To amend the 2017-18 Jail Budget in the amount of \$1,000.00.
3. To amend the 2017-18 Jail Budget in the amount of \$600.00.
4. To amend the 2017-18 Jail Budget in the amount of \$5,000.00.
5. To adopt the proposed General Fund changes as presented.